

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A data selection apparatus which performs
selection processes in parallel is provided. The
data selection apparatus includes search units and a
unit output control device. Each of the search
10 units includes table search circuits and a data
output control circuit which selects the highest
priority output data. The unit output control
device selects the highest priority output data from
15 outputs of the search units. A table search circuit
which succeeds in a search sends a search success
signal to the data output control circuit. The
search unit including the data output control
circuit sends a unit search success signal to the
unit output control device before performing a
selection process for the highest priority data.

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